CLAIMS

1.   A computer program product residing on a computer-readable medium and comprising computer-readable, computer-executable instructions for causing a computer to:

analyze a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording; and

determine from the first playback speed history a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by a second speaker to be played by a second listener.

2.   The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the first listener is the second listener, the first speaker is the second speaker and the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting using a current playback speed setting associated with the second speaker and the listener.

3.   The computer program product of claim 2 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting by determining an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting.

4.   The computer program product of claim 3 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting by modifying the adjustment based at least on a second playback history for at least one audio recording recorded by a third speaker and played by the listener.

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5. The computer program product of claim 4 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to modify the adjustment based on an average playback speed of multiple speakers listened to by the listener.

6. The computer program product of claim 2 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to analyze the first playback speed history to determine an indication of a willingness/reluctance of the listener to listen to recordings of the speaker faster than the current playback speed.

7. The computer program product of claim 6 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to analyze the first playback speed history to categorize the indication into one of a plurality of ranges of willingness/reluctance.

8. The computer program product of claim 7 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting by determining an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting based on with which of the ranges the indication is associated.

9. The computer program product of claim 6 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the indication of willingness/reluctance by ignoring a speed setting in the first playback speed history.

10. The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to ignore the speed setting in the first playback speed history if the speed setting is at least one of above an absolute threshold, and above a threshold that is dependent upon the current playback speed and is isolated.

11.   The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting by averaging speeds indicated by the first playback speed history.

5   12.   The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the speed setting is an initial speed setting for playback.

13.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to store an indication of the determined speed
10   setting as part of a second playback speed history such that the computer program product can learn from historical speed settings and adapt future speed settings based on the historical speed settings.

14.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising
15   instructions for causing the computer to determine the speed setting based on at least one factor other than the first playback speed history.

15.   The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the at least one other factor comprises at least one of an amount of time, a number of transcriptions
20   reviewed by a particular transcriptionist, and a number of transcriptions of a particular speaker reviewed by the particular transcriptionist.

16.   A device for use in a transcription editing system for editing transcriptions of dictations from speakers by transcriptionists, the device comprising:
25   an interface configured to receive historical indicia of playback speeds used by the transcriptionists; and
        playback speed means, coupled to the interface, for determining and setting a future playback speed for a selected transcriptionist based on a historical playback

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speed associated with at least one of the transcriptionists, and for sending a future-speed indication of the future playback speed to the interface;

wherein the historical playback speed is indicative of at least one playback speed associated with a playback speed used by at least one of the transcriptionists, the

5 interface is further configured to convey the future-speed indication from the playback speed means.

17. The device of claim 16 wherein the playback speed means determines the future playback speed using a current playback speed setting associated with the

10 transcriptionist and a speaker.

18. The device of claim 17 wherein the playback speed means determines the future playback speed by determining an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting.

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19. The device of claim 18 wherein the playback speed means modifies the adjustment based on an average playback speed associated with the transcriptionist.

20. The device of claim 17 wherein the playback speed means analyzes the

20 historical playback speed indicia to determine an indication of a willingness/reluctance of the transcriptionist to listen to recordings of a speaker faster than the current playback speed.

21. The device of claim 20 wherein the playback speed means determines

25 the indication of willingness/reluctance by ignoring a speed setting in the historical playback speed indicia.

22.   The device of claim 16 wherein the interface is configured to communicate over a network with a database that stores the historical playback indicia to store the future playback speed.

5   23.   The device of claim 16 wherein the future playback speed is an initial playback speed.

24.   The device of claim 16 wherein the playback speed means is configured to determine the future playback speed based on at least one factor other than the

10   historical playback speed.

25.   The device of claim 24 wherein the at least one other factor comprises at least one of an amount of time, a number of transcriptions reviewed by a particular transcriptionist, and a number of transcriptions of a particular speaker reviewed by the

15   particular transcriptionist.

26.   A method of determining a transcription audio playback speed, the method comprising:

        analyzing a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording

20   recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording; and

        determining from the first playback speed history a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by a second speaker to be played by a second

25   listener.

27.   The method of claim 26 wherein the first listener is the second listener, the first speaker is the second speaker and determining the speed setting uses a current

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playback speed setting associated with the second speaker and the listener.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein determining the speed setting includes determining an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting.

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29. The method of claim 28 wherein determining the speed setting includes modifying the adjustment based at least on a second playback history for at least one audio recording recorded by a third speaker and played by the listener.

10 30. The method of claim 29 wherein the adjustment is modified based on an average playback speed associated with the listener.

31. The method of claim 27 wherein analyzing the first playback speed history yields an indication of a willingness/reluctance of the listener to listen to 15 recordings of the speaker faster than the current playback speed.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein analyzing the first playback speed history includes categorizing the indication into one of a plurality of ranges of willingness/reluctance.

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33. The method of claim 32 wherein determining the speed setting includes determining an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting based on with which of the ranges the indication is associated.

25 34. The method of claim 31 wherein determining the indication of willingness/reluctance includes ignoring a speed setting in the first playback speed history.

35.   The method of claim 34 wherein the speed setting is ignored in the first playback speed history if the speed setting is at least one of above an absolute threshold, and above a threshold that is dependent upon the current playback speed and is isolated.

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36.   The method of claim 26 wherein determining the speed setting includes averaging speeds indicated by the first playback speed history.

37.   The method of claim 26 wherein the speed setting is an initial speed

10   setting for playback.

38.   The method of claim 26 further comprising storing an indication of the determined speed setting as part of a second playback speed history to learn from historical speed settings and adapt future speed settings based on the historical speed

15   settings.

39.   The method of claim 26 wherein determining the speed setting is based on at least one factor other than the first playback speed history.

20   40.   The method of claim 39 wherein the at least one other factor comprises at least one of an amount of time, a number of transcriptions reviewed by a particular transcriptionist, and a number of transcriptions of a particular speaker reviewed by the particular transcriptionist.